

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously amended). A bookmark for use in between pages of a book having a spine and a binding comprising:

a flexible, elongated, intermediate member having a first end and an opposing second end, said member having a predetermined length and thickness, said thickness being of a size to allow said intermediate member to extend between the pages of the book and along the length of the spine of the book without stretching its binding;

a top anchor for abutting the edges of the pages of the book having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a portion of a character including a head end secured to said first end;

a bottom anchor for abutting the edges of the pages of the book having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a second portion of said character secured to said second end;

wherein the length of said intermediate member may be extended from its predetermined length to accommodate books of different sizes; and

wherein said anchors inhibit removal of the bookmark in a direction parallel to the length of the spine when the bookmark is inserted within said book without overlapping the pages or spine of the book.

Claim 17 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said intermediate member is a stretchable ribbon formed of an elastomeric material.

Claim 18 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said character includes animal features.

Claim 19 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said character includes cartoon character features.

Claim 20 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said character includes human features.

Claim 21 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said character includes humanoid features.

Claim 22 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said top anchor includes an upper torso supporting said head and a set of upper limbs; and

said bottom anchor includes a lower torso attached to a pair of lower limbs.

Claim 23 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 22 wherein:

said lower limbs are constructed to retain a coiled portion of said intermediate member therebetween.

Claim 24 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said top and bottom anchors are made of a plush material.

Claim 25 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said top anchor includes a first fastener element; and

said bottom anchor includes a second fastener element constructed for releasable engagement with said first fastener element.

Claim 26 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 25 wherein:

said first fastener element and said second fastener element comprise a snap.

Claim 27 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 25 wherein:

said first fastener element is in the form of a series of hooks and said second fastener is in the form of a pile material having a set of loops.

Claim 28 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

a length of said intermediate member is coiled around said bottom anchor and said top anchor rests against said bottom anchor to assume a storage position for the bookmark in the form of said character in a sitting position when the bookmark is not inserted within the book.

Claim 29 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 16 wherein:

said top and bottom anchors are three-dimensional.

Claim 30 (previously amended). A bookmark for insertion between the pages of a book including a spine and comprising:

a thin, flexible, elongated connector having a first end and an opposing second end, said connector having a predetermined length;

a three-dimensional, first stop for abutting the edges of the pages of the book in the form of a figure having an upper torso supporting a head and a pair of forelimbs located at said first end of said connector;

a three-dimensional second stop for abutting the edges of the pages of the book in the form of a lower torso portion of said first stop including a retention member for retaining a coiled portion of said connector located at said second end of said connector; and

wherein said stops inhibit the removal of the bookmark in a direction substantially parallel to the length of the spine when the bookmark is inserted between pages of the book without overlapping the pages or spine of the book .

Claim 31 (original). A bookmark as set forth in claim 30 wherein:

said stops cooperate when said connector is coiled around said bottom stop to form a sitting figure.

Claim 32 (previously amended). A bookmark for use in between pages of a book having a spine and a binding comprising:

a flexible, elongated, intermediate member having a first end and an opposing second end, said member having a predetermined length and thickness, said thickness being of a size to allow said intermediate member to extend between the pages of the book and along the length of the spine of the book without stretching its binding;

a top anchor for abutting the edges of the pages of the book having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of the upper body portion of a character including a head end secured to said first end;

a bottom anchor for abutting the edges of the pages of the book having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of the lower body portion of said character secured to said second end; and

wherein said anchors inhibit removal of the bookmark in a direction parallel to the length of the spine when the bookmark is inserted between the pages of the book without overlapping the pages or spine of the book .

Claim 33 (previously amended) A bracelet comprising:

a thin, flexible, elongated connector having a first end and an opposing second end, said connector having a predetermined length;

a three-dimensional, first member in the form of a figure having an upper torso supporting a head and a pair of forelimbs positioned at said first end of said connector;

a three-dimensional second member in the form of a lower torso portion of said first member positioned at said second end of said connector;

complimentary fastening means being provided on said first and second members wherein said connector may be wrapped around an individual's wrist and the fastening means engaged to form a bracelet.

Claim 34 (previously amended). A bookmark for use in between pages of a book having a spine and a binding comprising:

a flexible, elongated, intermediate member having a first end and an opposing second end, said member having a predetermined length and thickness, said thickness being of a size to allow said intermediate member to extend between the pages of the book and along the length of the spine of the book without stretching its binding;

a top anchor having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a first portion of a character including a head end secured to said first end;

a bottom anchor having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a second portion of said character secured to said second end;

wherein the length of said intermediate member may be extended from its predetermined length to accommodate books of different sizes;

wherein said anchors inhibit removal of the bookmark in a direction parallel to the length of the spine when the bookmark is inserted between the pages of the book;

wherein said top anchor includes a first fastener element; and

said bottom anchor includes a second fastener element constructed for releasable engagement with said first fastener element; and

said first fastener element and said second fastener element comprise a snap.

Claim 35 (previously amended) A bookmark for use in between pages of a book having a spine and a binding comprising:

a flexible, elongated, intermediate member having a first end and an opposing second end, said member having a predetermined length and thickness, said thickness being of a size to allow said intermediate member to extend between the pages of the book and along the length of the spine of the book without stretching its binding;

a top anchor having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a first portion of a character including a head end secured to said first end;

a bottom anchor having a thickness greater than the thickness of the intermediate member and being in the form of a second portion of said character secured to said second end;

wherein the length of said intermediate member may be extended from its predetermined length to accommodate books of different sizes; and

wherein said anchors inhibit removal of the bookmark in a direction parallel to the length of the spine when the bookmark is inserted between the pages of the book;

wherein said top anchor includes a first fastener element; and

said bottom anchor includes a second fastener element constructed for releasable engagement with said first fastener element; and

said first fastener element is in the form of a series of hooks and said second fastener is in the form of a pile material having a set of loops.